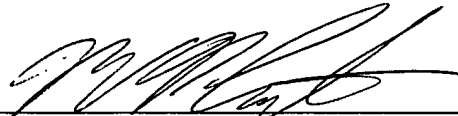


- ☐ Petition for () month(s) extension of time pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.17 and 1.136(a). \$0.00 for the extension of time.
- ☒ No fee is required.
- ☐ Check(s) in the amount of \$0.00 is(are) enclosed.
- ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2448 in the amount of \$0.00. This form is submitted in triplicate.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By 
Michael R. Cammarata, #39,491

MRC/kpc

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MS: NON FEE AMENDMENT
PATENT
4450-0370P

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Balakrishnan SRIDHAR et al. Conf.: 3540
Appl. No.: 09/677,344 Group: 3663
Filed: October 2, 2000 Examiner: HUGHES, D.
For: THREE-STAGE OPTICAL AMPLIFIER
HAVING FLAT SPECTRAL GAIN

REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

September 1, 2004

Sir:

In response to the Examiner's Office Action dated June 9, 2004, the following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

This Paper includes:

Amendments to the Claims, which are reflected in the listing of claims beginning on page 2 of this paper; and

Remarks/Arguments, which begin on page 25 of this paper.